

Remarks

This Amendment has revised the application such that it is believed to be in an allowable condition for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled and the remaining dependent claims 3-11 have been amended to depend from the new claim 13 which has been added together with a new claim 14.

The new claim 13 recites a bottom anchor assembly for anchoring a substantially vertically oriented elongate safety line to a structure. This anchor assembly is recited as including a gripping means for gripping the safety line, a tension means spaced from the gripping means and operable to adjust the safety line tension, a bracket means for mounting the tension means on the structure, a connector arm means that links the gripping means and the tensioning means, and an attachment means for attaching a further length of safety line below the gripping means and coaxially with the safety line gripped by the gripping means to permit a safety line traveller to pass from the further length of safety line attached below the safety line gripping means, over the safety line gripping means and onto the safety line above the gripping means.

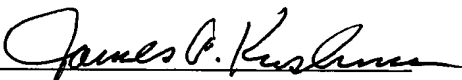
The United States Patent 4,790,410 Sharp et al. and the other references of record do not teach or in any way suggest a bottom anchor assembly as described above. There is no provision in any of the prior art references disclosing a gripping means, tensioning means, bracket means, and connector arm means together with an attachment means for attaching an additional length of safety line below the gripping means in the manner recited. Sharp et al. does not disclose or make any suggestion of how it would be obvious to provide such a bottom anchor assembly. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 and its dependent claims 3-11 distinguish over the prior art and are allowable.

Also, new claim 14 recites the bottom anchor assembly and specifically recites that the tensioning means is spaced from the gripping means transversely to the longitudinal direction of the safety line, and also recites that the bracket means is located at a side of the tensioning means and mounts the tensioning means on the structure outwardly therefrom in a direction transverse to the longitudinal direction of the safety line orientation. Sharp et al. and the other references of record do not teach or suggest a safety line bottom anchor assembly of this construction.

Also, an Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently herewith to make of record prior art cited in the Patent Cooperation Treaty application from which this application was filed under 35 U.S.C. 371.

For the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in an allowable condition such that it is appropriate to hereby respectfully solicit its allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
KARL JONES ET AL.

By 
James A. Kushman
Reg. No. 25,634
Attorney for Applicants

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BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351